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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
	:	
	:	
CHRISTINA ANNE KIRITSIS, R.N.	:	
License # 26NO11498800	:	FINAL ORDER
	:	OF DISCIPLINE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Christina Anne Kiritsis ("Respondent") is a Registered Professional Nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about May 4, 2014, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial renewal application which asked whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2014," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014. Respondent was also asked whether she completed the one hour course on Organ and Tissue Donation. Respondent answered "yes" to both questions and certified the answers by submitting the online application.

3. On or about August 18, 2014, the Board sent Respondent a letter asking, in part, that she provide proof of having completed required continuing education from her last biennial renewal period (June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014).

4. Respondent replied and admitted that she had not taken all of the required continuing education and was unable to find the certificates for the continuing education which she had completed. Respondent subsequently sent in a certificate of

completion for 30 hours of continuing education completed on October 10, 2014.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), nurses are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education during the preceding biennial period in order to renew their licenses. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), nurses are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing education for a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.

Respondent failed to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, that Respondent completed the continuing education credits required for renewal during the biennial period of June 1, 2012 - May 31, 2014. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b) and 13:37-5.3(f), which in turn subjects Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

Respondent's use of dishonesty and misrepresentation during the license renewal process in misrepresenting her continuing education information constitutes a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), subjecting Respondent to sanctions.

Respondent may apply the 30 hours of continuing education completed in October 2014 to cure the deficiency of the previous biennial period and avoid suspension of her license on that basis. As those 30 hours are being applied to cure the deficiency of the previous biennial period, they cannot also be used to satisfy the requirements of the current biennial period.

DISCUSSION

A Provisional Order of Discipline (POD) was filed on August 27, 2015 based upon Ms. Kiritsis' failure to demonstrate timely completion of required continuing education. The POD seeks a reprimand and \$250 civil penalty.

Ms. Kiritsis responded to the POD and maintains that she intended to complete the required continuing education between May 4, 2014 when she renewed and May 31, 2014 when the biennial renewal period ended. However, a series of events sidetracked her and she did not complete them until October 2014.

The Board determined that the submitted materials do not merit modification of the POD. The reprimand and \$250 civil penalty are warranted.

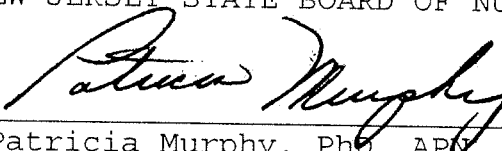
ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 22nd day of March, 2016,
ORDERED that:

1. A reprimand is imposed on Respondent for misrepresenting the continuing education information on her license renewal application.

2. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for failing to timely complete required continuing education. Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to Leslie Burgos, Board Staff, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than fifteen (15) days after the date of filing of this **Final Order of Discipline**. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN
Board President